

RFP# 12-13
JUVENILE ENTRY DIVERSION INITIATIVE (JEDI)
SUMMARY

The Frederick County Office for Children and Families (OCF) is a department within the Citizen Services Division of Frederick County Government. OCF seeks to create a more efficient and effective system of care for the children and families of Frederick County through:

- Developing service, family, community and financial partnerships;
- Designing goal-directed services that are client-centered and family-focused;
- Targeting resources to families with the greatest needs; and
- Implementing a monitoring system to determine client and cost outcomes.

OCF is also the home of the Frederick County Local Management Board (LMB). The State of Maryland mandates that all counties have a Local Management Board to oversee interagency services to children and families, create a results-based system and minimize duplication of services.

The LMB guides OCF in governing, allocating resources, monitoring and evaluating family services. The LMB is composed of private and public membership. The private members include private citizens, business leaders, private providers and clergy. The public members are the State of Maryland Departments of Social Services, Juvenile Services, and Health and Mental Hygiene and the Frederick County Public Schools.

OCF, in partnership with the Governor's Office for Children and through the Frederick County Board of County Commissioners, is seeking proposals from qualified human service organizations to provide and implement the Juvenile Entry Diversion Initiative in Frederick County.

The Juvenile Entry Diversion Initiative (JEDI) will streamline the point of entry for services for delinquent youth as well as youth for whom a Child In Need of Supervision (CINS) Complaint has been filed. The program will provide case management services to at-risk youth in order to prevent them from becoming negatively involved in the juvenile justice system.

The Juvenile Entry Diversion Initiative in Frederick County will be accessible by all youth in the county, allowing referrals from all law enforcement agencies (via police reports, citations and arrests), school systems (via school resource officers and pupil personnel workers), and citizens (via complaint forms). All police reports, citations and citizen complaints will be forwarded to the Department of Juvenile Services (DJS) for initial review to determine whether the youth meets basic eligibility criteria for the program.

Parents wishing to file a CINS Complaint will be required to appear in person at DJS to complete the appropriate paperwork, documenting the presenting problem(s) as well as actions taken to resolve the issues to date.

Following the initial eligibility review, DJS will forward police reports, citations and private complaints as well as CINS applications to the Case Manager(s) for further assessment and service linkage. Note: Juvenile offenders and JEDI CINS youth will NOT be entered into the DJS system upon receipt of these documents.

The Juvenile Entry Diversion Initiative will focus on two (2) core case management components: diverting juvenile offenders from DJS to community-based programs and services AND redirecting Children In Need of Supervision (CINS) cases away from DJS to community-based programs and services.